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strictly dioecious, and therefore did not look for polygamous or monoecious plants. The collection of one of the latter, was purely accidental, and was not observed until I got home. A more careful examination on the spot, may show that monoecious and polygamous forms are more common than I found them.

216 So. 15th Street, Philadelphia.

CHARLES E. SMITH.

**Notes from Massachusetts.**—During the present spring I have examined a large number of the plants of *Symplocarpus foetidus*, Salisb., with a view to observing malformations, with the following result. More than a dozen spathes were found which contained a second spathe within the outer one. Their relative positions varied. In some specimens the inner spathe opened in the same direction as the outer, in others it faced directly opposite, and in others it occupied intermediate positions between these. Each specimen contained a perfect spadix. All the spathes in one cluster (8) presented this change. Several specimens were found which were perfectly normal with the exception that the spadix was abortive, very minute and imperfect. One had no trace whatever of a spadix. Incidentally it was noted that the flowers were much frequented by our common honey-bees. Indeed, with one or two accidental exceptions, I have noticed no other insects about them.

Prof. Bailey's observation on the lack of male flowers in the alders this spring finds abundant confirmation in this locality. The peculiar season seems to have worked confusion among our spring flowers. The rare *Nardosmia palmata*, Hook., found at a single station in this region, has this season almost wholly failed to put forth flowers. Not half a dozen specimens have been collected where usually hundreds are found, although quantities of the palmate leaves testify to the vitality of the roots.

Amherst, Mass., May 5th, 1882.

WINTHROP E. STONE.

**The Alder Catkins.**—On page 57 of the BULLETIN I see a note on alder catkins, and would like to say that the staminate catkins of that plant, in this vicinity, this year, were remarkably vigorous, and appeared in great profusion. I noticed this fact from my attention, for special reasons, having been given to them. I should reasonably expect there might be all this difference in places so distant from each other as Rhode Island and Wisconsin.

Ripon, Wisc.

C. T. TRALEY.

**Plant Exchanges.**—Dr. Joseph V. Haberer, of 66 Miller Street, Utica, N. Y., who is constantly engaged in collecting, and who has good specimens of everything found growing in Oneida County and vicinity, desires to correspond and exchange with botanists devoted to the study of *Carex*. Dr. Haberer's list of desiderata is too long to insert in this place, but may be obtained by addressing him as above.

Mr. Gustav Adolf Zwanziger, the editor of the *Kärntner Gartenbauzeitung*, and whose address is Klagenfurt, Kärnten, Austria, writes us that he would like to exchange phaenogams and cryptogams of the Austrian Alps for American ferns, mosses, algae and phaenogams.